the organised and unorganised sector and details regarding number, quantity produced etc. are not maintained centrally. Since liberalisation in 1991, till December, 1996, 3,885 Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandums (IEMs) have been filed in the various sectors of food processing. Out of this, 511 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda have been implemented so far. In respect of Karnataka IEMs filed are 90 and implemented are 12. Similarly 908 approvals for Joint Venture, 100% Export Oriented Units and Industrial Licences proposals have been granted till November, 1996. Out of this, 155 proposals have been implemented so far. In respect of Karnataka approvals granted are 47 and implemented are 11. The Ministry extends financial assistance under its plan schemes to State Government Organisations/Cooperatives/Voluntary Organisations including Non-Government Organisations for setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing units.

[Translation]

Budgetary Support for Power Sector

682. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reduced the budgetary support to the power sector under the pressure of some foreign institutions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Adulteration in Kerosene

683. DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA:
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the case of adulteration in kerosene have sharply increased in the country;

(b) the number of such cases detected during the last six months;

(c) the action taken against the adulterations; and

(d) the details of measures taken by the Government to check the adulteration in kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No cases of adulteration in kerosene have been detected during the last six months.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Regular/surprise inspections are conducted by field officers of the oil companies and joint industry teams at SKO dealerships. Action is taken under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines against the erring dealers.

[English]

Oil Wells

684. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether most of the wells drilled by the Bay Exploration Project of Oil India Limited along Mahanadi Basin and the North-East coast were abandoned before attaining the required depth; and

(b) if so, the number of wells drilled in the area since the Bay Exploration project was set up and the reasons for abandoning the Wells before attaining the targeted depth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Oil India Limited has drilled 7 wells in Mahanadi Offshore, 4 wells in Mahanadi onshore and 4 wells in NEC Offshore areas i.e. a total of 15 wells. Out of these 3 wells reached the required depth, 6 wells encountered basement or crystalline rocks, therefore, further drilling had to be terminated. The remaining 6 wells were not drilled upto target depth due to downhole problems.

[Translation]

New Employment Policy

685. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have formulated any new policies to generate more employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States included under new policies; and

(d) the number of persons likely to get employment as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) Priority to agriculture and rural development will be given to generating adequate productive employment in the Ninth plan. Recognising the high incidence of under employment and increasing casualisation of labour, there is need to enhance employment opportunities for the poor. In this context, the Ninth Plan will implement a National Employment Assurance Scheme. Productive employment is an important dimension of the State policy that will seek to achieve growth with equity. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour

intensive, in regions characterised by higher rate of unemployment and under-employment. Benefits of employment schemes will flow to all the states covering entire population of the country. The Ninth Plan will contain the details of an employment policy.

[English]

Sand Mining for Minerals

686. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mining of sand for minerals connected to Atomic Energy Sources are being conducted on coastal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private companies and public undertakings are involved in such mining operations;

(d) if so, the details, thereof; and

(e) whether indigeneous companies with experience in handling such minerals proposed to be preferred in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINSTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Ilmenite, Rutile, Zircon, Leucoxene and Monazite, declared as scheduled minerals under the Atomic Energy Act, are mined from the coastal areas of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Orissa. Total production of these minerals in the last year (1995-96) was as follows :-

	Metric tonnes
Ilmenite	2,98,183
Rutile	12,965
Zircon	20,333
Leucoxene	NIL
Monazite	3,751

(c) to (e) Mining of atomic minerals has been reserved for Public Sector under the Statement on Industrial Policy, 1991. Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of the Department of Atomic Energy and Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited, a Government of Kerala undertaking are the only companies involved in the mining operations. IRE has its plants at Chavara (Kerala), Manavalakurichi (Tamil Nadu) and Chatrapur (Orissa) for mining and mineral separation. Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited has mining activities only in Chavara (Kerala).

Power Tariff

687. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since worked out the details on the tariff issue and procedure for finalising the transmission project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) Consequent upon the amendments to the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, recognising 'transmission' as a distinct activity and providing for issue of transmission licenses, a Committee of Experts has been set up by the Ministry of Power on 17.2.1997 to make recommendations relating to establishment of a suitable administrative and financial framework alongwith supporting legal enablements to facilitate private investment in transmission projects. The Committee has been directed, inter alia, to suggest guidelines on determination of transmission tariff(s), negotiation of transmission service agreements and for selection of private companies in the field of transmission including principles for bid solicitation and evaluation. The Committee is to submit its final report to the Ministry of Power within two months from the date of its first sitting.

Mini Refinery

688. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals pending with the Union Government for setting up of mini refinery in the Krishna-Godavari river basin in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether LOI and environmental clearance for the project has been issued for the project; and

(d) the other proposals from private or joint sector or foreign based company for refinery project is pending with the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF THE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No proposal for setting up mini refinery is pending.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The proposals on other refinery project in different stages of processing are :-

(1) M/s. PRA Petrochemicals Limited for setting up of 9.5 MMTPA (EOU) Refinery at Andhra Pradesh.

(2) M/s. Sterlite Industries (India) Limited (EOU) for setting up a 3.00 MMTPA Refinery at Tamil Nadu.

(3) M/s. Sand Plast Industries for setting up 3 MMTPA Refinery (EOU) to be set up in Paradeep, Orissa.

(4) M/s. Chambal Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd. for setting up a 0.21 MMTPA Refinery under DTA at Dabhol, Maharashtra.